

Remarks

The pending Office Action has been carefully considered. Seventeen claims remain in this application, numbered 1, 3, 5-18 and 21. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim. Claims 1 has been amended and claim 2 deleted.

The present invention as claimed in newly amended independent claim 1 is a two-component ostomy device. The two components are a body attaching wafer component and a pouch component. The body attaching wafer component is adhesively adhereable to the body.

The body wafer and pouch are adhereable to and separatable from each other at a pressure sensitive adhesive interface that is between the two components. The two components are positionable on the body to collect stomal fluid.

The adhesive interface includes one or more polysiloxanes, and at least one silicate resin including their blend and reaction products.

The adhesives interface between the two components is resealable and resistant to migration of stomal fluids into the adhesive interface.

Each of the two components of this ostomy device has a surface on opposite side of the adhesive interface. The adhesive interface is coated onto at least one of the opposing side surfaces of the two components.

It is believed that the present invention as claimed in newly amended claim 1 is neither anticipated, nor obvious, under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103, respectively, in view of the cited references Cilento, et al. ("Cilento) or Lin, applied singly or in combination.

Cilento is directed to an adhesive for a skin barrier for ostomates. In this reference there is a disclosure of a two component ostomy device, as indicated by the Examiner. However, the Cilento two component device and the presently claimed invention are very different.

As indicated in column 6, lines 23-40 and Figs. 1-3, Cilento's device includes a coupling element, component B, and a skin barrier that couples with a coupling element 44 on the ostomy pouch (Fig. 4). The coupling elements B and 44 join mechanically when the coupling elements are pushed together.

The adhesive interface 31 the Examiner refers to at column 6, lines 9-13 as a pressure sensitive adhesive is an adhesive layer 31 that contacts the skin (see column 6, line 11). The adhesive layer 31 of Cilento does not teach or suggest the adhesive interface, as presently claimed.

The adhesive layer 31 of Cilento adheres the skin barrier 10 to the skin, see Figs. 1-3. There is no teaching or suggestion in Cilento of an interface layer to adhere two ostomy device components together, as presently claimed. Cilento relies on mating mechanical couplings to join the two components together. In other words, while Cilento discusses an adhesive it does not anticipate or render obvious a pressure sensitive adhesive interface between two components, wherein each component has a surface on the opposite side of the interface and the adhesive interface is coated on at least one of the component surfaces. Furthermore, there is no suggestion in Cilento of an adhesive interface that includes one or more polysiloxanes wherein the two components are adhereable to each other and separable from each other at the polysiloxane's adhesive interface.

Cilento discusses mechanical coupling technology and the present invention as claimed involves adhesive coupling technology.

Lin discloses an adhesive composition. However, there is no suggestion or teaching that the adhesive disclosed can be incorporated into a two component ostomy device, as presently claimed in newly amended claim 1. There is nothing in Lin to render the adhesive interface as presently claimed anticipated or obvious. The adhesive interface as presently claimed permits the two components of the claimed ostomy device to adhere to each other, to separate from each other, and to be resealable. The adhesive interface of the present invention is also resistant to migration of stomal fluids. Furthermore, the newly claimed adhesive interface is coated onto at least one of the surfaces of the component on the opposite sides of the adhesive interface.

Lin discloses an adhesive that can be used with numerous materials. There is no suggestion or teaching in Lin of an ostomy device having two components with an adhesive interface as claimed. Nor does a combination of Lin with Cilento yield the present invention or render it obvious since Cilento has no adhesive interface between

two ostomy components (wafer and pouch components) permitting adhesion, separation and resealability. These references applied singly or in combination do not render the present invention as claimed obvious.

The present invention as claimed and as described in the specification (see Tables 4 and 7) is a two piece ostomy device with a surprising resistance to stomal effluent that was not suggested or taught by any of the references, applied singly or in combination.

There are a very large number of adhesives known. It is an unexpected surprise to discover an adhesive that permits adhesion, separation, resealing and resistance to stomal effluent when incorporated as an adhesive interface between two components of an ostomy device.

Allowance of this application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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